

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 COME-00 TRSE-00 OIC-02

AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /111 R

DRAFTED BY IO/DHP:DWFIGGINS:GAS

APPROVED BY IO:RDMOREY

IO/DHP:CENORRIS

EB/IFD/OSB:ADBRAMANTE (INFO)

PPC/IA/UNR(AID):MLSCHUWEILER(INFO)

IO/IBC/SC:JDFOX (INFO)

IO/IBC/BD:WMSOUTHWORTH (INFO)

IO/ML:JWASHBURN (INFO)

L:EKERLEY (INFO)

COMMERCE:TFIEDLER (INFO)

TREASURY:ECHASE (INFO)

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R 080324Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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VIENNAFOR UNIDO MISSION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNIDO, OCON, UNGA, EGEN

SUBJECT:NEGOTIATIONS ON UNIDO CONSTITUTION: VISIT OF
AMB. MEHTA TO USUN

REF: (A) VIENNA 9858; (B) VIENNA 9835

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1. SUMMARY: CHAIRMAN OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE OF
WHOLE TO DRAW UP UNIDO CONSTITUTION (IGC) EXPRESSED
VIEWS TO USUN AND DEPT. OFFICIALS WHICH CLOSELY
CORRESPOND TO U.S. VIEWS ON UNGA RENEWAL OF IGC MANDATE.

IN PARTICULAR, HE STRONGLY FAVORS AND WILL ENCOURAGE SECOND COMMITTEE TO SPECIFY A VIENNA VENUE AND NO TIME LIMITS ON FUTURE IGC NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. AS ANTICIPATED IN REFTEL A, AMB. AMRIK MEHTA (INDIA), CHAIRMAN IGC, PAID CALL DEC. 3 IN NEW YORK ON AMB. MYERSON WITH MINISTER KITCHEN AND UNIDO DESK OFFICER FIGGINS (IO/DHP) PRESENT.

3. AMB. MEHTA STATED THAT HE INTENDS TO RECOMMEND TO SECOND COMMITTEE THAT GA RESOLUTION A) REQUEST IGC TO CONTINUE ITS WORK, B) DESIGNATE VIENNA AS THE SITE

(TO AVOID NEW YORK OR GENEVA REPETITION OF GENERAL DEBATE AND RENEGOTIATION OF NUANCED COMPROMISES), AND C) OMIT REFERENCE TO SPECIFIC TIMING OF PLENIPOTENTIARY MEETING. HE BELIEVED THAT FUTURE IGC SESSION OR SESSIONS SHOULD MEET FOR MORE EXTENDED PERIOD THAN THE TWO WEEK PERIODS OF THE FIRST FOUR SESSIONS. HE SAID THAT HE WILL CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE WITH HIS G-77 COLLEAGUES THAT, UNLIKE NEGOTIATION OF A RESOLUTION, THE OUTCOME OF UNIDO CONSTITUTION NEGOTIATION MUST BE ACCEPTABLE TO POTENTIAL MAJOR FINANCIAL AND SUBSTANTIVE CONTRIBUTORS SUCH AS THE U.S., JAPAN, SOVIET UNION ETC. HENCE, AMB. MEHTA SAID HE DID NOT ACCEPT VAUNTED ADVANTAGE OF MOVING NEGOTIATIONS TO NEW YORK WHERE G-77 MAJORITY WOULD BE INCREASED. HE ALSO DREW CONCLUSION THAT IGC MUST REDUCE BRACKETED LANGUAGE TO A MINIMUM TO MAKE IT MANAGEABLE BY WHAT WOULD NECESSARILY BE A BRIEF PLENIPOTENTIARY MEETING OF NO MORE THAN ONE WEEK.

4. AMB. MYERSON EXPRESSED GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH AMB. MEHTA'S POINT OF VIEW AND RECALLED FROM HIS EXPERIENCE THAT TRANSFORMATION OF OEEC INTO OECD HAD TAKEN ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF OF NEARLY CONSTANT NEGOTIATION EVEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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THOUGH IT HAD INVOLVED FEWER NATIONS WITH LESS DIVERGENT VIEWS. MINISTER KITCHEN ADDED THAT THE EXERCISE ON RESTRUCTURING THE UN FOR GLOBAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT, ALTHOUGH G-77 MISSIONS MAY BE ESTABLISHED IN NEW YORK, THEY DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE PERSONNEL AVAILABLE FOR NEGOTIATIONS. AMB. MEHTA RESPONDED THAT HE FEARED THAT IF THE IGC VENUE WERE CHANGED TO NEW YORK THAT NEGOTIATORS WOULD BE LOWER RANKING THAN THOSE WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN VIENNA. HE SAID IN THIS REGARD THAT HE WOULD PREFER A GENEVA VENUE TO A NEW YORK SITE. HE PRAISED PERM REP STIBRAVY AS A CREATIVE, WELL-INFORMED, COOPERATIVE NEGOTIATOR WITHIN CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED UPON HIM BY INSTRUCTIONS.

5. AMB. MEHTA EXPRESSED VIEW THAT, IN ORDER TO RECEIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION FROM GOVERNMENTS, FUTURE IGC SHOULD NOT BE SCHEDULED BACK TO BACK WITH INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD (IDB) AND PERMANENT COMMITTEE (PC) IN MARCH. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY WHETHER IDB AND PC MIGHT BE RESCHEDULED TO ALLOW PERHAPS A FOUR-WEEK IGC SESSION IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH, AMB. MEHTA SAID THAT A PROPOSAL DIRECTED TO THIS END WAS IN THE AIR, I.E., TO SCHEDULE IDB AND PC IN JUNE. HE OPINED THAT FEBRUARY AND MARCH, HOWEVER, WOULD BE TOO EARLY FOR GOVERNMENTS TO BE PREPARED FOR SERIOUS NEGOTIATION.

6. AMB. MEHTA ASKED WHETHER USG WOULD BE MORE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE IN JUNE THAN FEBRUARY. FIGGINS REPLIED THAT SUFFICIENT LENGTH OF TIME FOR IGC NEGOTIATIONS WAS MORE IMPORTANT FACTOR THAN HOW SOON THEY WERE HELD AND ASKED AMB. MEHTA WHETHER G-77 WOULD BE PREPARED TO DELAY BEYOND FEBRUARY OR MARCH. MEHTA IMPLIED THAT G-77 WOULD BE PREPARED TO WAIT UNTIL LATER DATE BY REITERATING THAT FEBRUARY OR MARCH SEEMED TOO EARLY TO HIM. HE ADMITTED IGNORANCE OF DATES WHEN CONFERENCE FACILITIES WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE IGC SESSIONS IN VIENNA, GENEVA, OR NEW YORK.

7. AMB. MEHTA ALSO ASKED POINT BLANK WHETHER U.S. FAVORED TRANSFORMATION OF UNIDO INTO SPECIALIZED AGENCY. FIGGINS REPLIED THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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DECISIONS DIVIDED BETWEEN IDB IN VIENNA AND GA IN NEW YORK INTRODUCED A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CONFUSION AND DELAY IN UNIDO WORK AND THAT HOPEFULLY UNIDO EFFECTIVENESS WOULD INCREASE AS AN AUTONOMOUS SPECIALIZED AGENCY. FIGGINS CONCLUDED THAT U.S. HAS NOT OPPOSED TRANSFORMATION SINCE THE TIME OF THE LIMA CONFERENCE. AMB. MEHTA REFERRED VAGUELY TO HAVING HEARD OF A GA RESOLUTION "SPONSORED BY YEMEN OR SOMEONE" WHICH WOULD INCREASE UNIDO AUTONOMY AND LEAVE IT WITHIN UN.

8. WHEN ASKED HOW SYG WOULD BE LIKELY TO REACT IF HE WERE GIVEN THE KIND OF BROAD DISCRETION CONTAINED IN THE RESOLUTION FLOATED BY JAMAICA, I.E., "TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS" TO CALL ANY SUCH "FUTURE MEETINGS AS MIGHT BE NECESSARY" (REFTEL B), AMB. MEHTA SAID HE HAD NOT YET BEEN IN TOUCH WITH SYG.

9. IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY BY AMB. MYERSON ABOUT THE GENERAL STATE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, AMB. MEHTA SAID HE CONSIDERED THE DEFINITION OF THE ASSESSED BUDGET AS THE SINGLE MOST DIFFICULT ISSUE. HE OPINED THAT ONCE

THIS ISSUE WERE SOLVED, THE QUESTIONS OF COMPOSITION, VOTING, AND POWERS OF THE PROGRAM BUDGET COMMITTEE (PBC), INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD (IDB), AND GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC) WOULD BE RELATIVELY SIMPLE TO RESOLVE.

10. COMMENT: MISSION SOUNDINGS INDICATE THAT AMB. MEHTA MAY HAVE MORE SUCCESS IN PERSUADING HIS G-77 COLLEAGUES IN NEW YORK TO ADOPT HIS VIEWS THAN HE HAD IN VIENNA. NEVERTHELESS, BEST USUN MAY BE ABLE ACHIEVE IN MODIFYING JAMAICA RESOLUTION (REFTEL B), IF IT IS FORMALLY INTRODUCED, MAY BE DELETION OF PARAS. 1 AND 2.

SINCE PARA. 3 MENTIONS INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE IT APPEARS TO DEPT THAT THIS RESULT WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO ACHIEVE PURPOSE OF RENEWED SESSIONS IN VIENNA.

11. AMB. MEHTA'S OPINION THAT COMPOSITION, VOTING, AND POWERS OF THE PBC, IDB, AND GC ARE RELATIVELY SIMPLE ISSUES SERIOUSLY MISUNDERSTANDS BOTH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT POSITION AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT STRATEGY. BUDGET LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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DEFINITION DEALS WITH FINANCING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. THE PBC, IDB, GC ISSUES DEAL WITH BUDGET LEVELS FOR ALL PROGRAMS. BOTH ISSUES ARE PRINCIPAL ISSUES WITH THE USG. FURTHERMORE, THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE US WILL BE WILLING TO COMPROMISE ITS MAXIMUM POSITION ON ONE SET OF ISSUES DEPENDS UPON ACHIEVING NEARER ITS MAXIMUM ON THE OTHER SET OF ISSUES. THE USG WILL RESIST THE G-77 TACTIC TO SEPARATE THE TWO ISSUES AND PRESS FOR "POLITICAL WILL" BY THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO MAKE MAXIMUM COMPROMISES ON EACH IN TURN.

12. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN CLEARED WITH USUN NEW YORK.

ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

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